



Echin May 26th 1884

Dear Anna

There is so much coming
or going that there is not time
either to read or write here. The
time however has passed pleasantly
to me and now on the eve of
leaving for I hope two weeks of
upso. at Louisa. I regret however
to hear that Minnie's health is
badly, also Edith's. Rudolf is at
Louisa who is very helpful on my
part. We have taken tea with three
of the outside nieces dined with
Mr. Mowbrays & are to dine with
Prof. Caldwell & to morrow up Louisa
papers returned at Anson's hall & the
leave early on Wednesday morn. & after

are up at Louie papa's busy
holiday classes. I miss him quickly
also he of the past - All a dream to
life itself will be when it ends!

It is useless your regretting papa's early
return as he believes it to be necessary
& there are some good reasons for
our date also. If you are at Metis,
at present, papa seems quite to like
the thought of going down at the
time of our arrival. So I hope it will be
just as pleasant there as anywhere else
for a week or two. I am sorry you
had not heard of a suitable time
for our Cottage but do not get despair
of your doing so - if you had I am sure
it had got perhaps the mt "Kinoac" is
it as you suggest, but more likely
we shall prefer the hotel. I say if you
are at Metis because even though the
out of Mr Harrington's delivery you had

3 doubts as to the propriety of going so
far from St. Andrews. I sincerely hope
that time may remove this fear, I feel
so sure that no more place will be so
beneficial either for the Children or for
Bernard himself.

Tuesday

Last night papa lectured to a large &
distinguished audience. Mr. Mike-Halme
was in the Chair. The Lord Provost -
Sir Geor^y Harison - Lord Mc-Clarke &
other notables on the platform & Mrs
Munro & Victoria among at the Audience
Mrs M. has been very kind to us & allowed
us to eat & for time for all her atten-
tion we had a delightful drive with
her beside afternoon tea & dinner. Mr
& Mrs M. & vic. have taken their seats in
the same theatre that I & mine are en-
gaged for - the "Salvation". We propose
to remain a week or so longer at Leam
after p. leaves - to spend the last week

in June with Ella at Buntisland
 a week or perhaps only a few days
 at Grassmere with the Armstrongs. I
 having the idea that they don't care ac-
 cidently for us without paper, then finish
 up at the Crain's.

In regard to our hays it seems to me
 for a small scale like the messages
 that come to job. George writes to me of
 a "lost life". Rankine (who has been
 waiting for months in hope of a place
 as surgeon on board of a Peninsular
 or Oriental steamer!!) speaks of himself
 precisely in the same style. & now W.
 I suppose has all heart taken out
 of him without furnishing or settling
 down in Montreal. & your own life
 is one of such toil as will soon tell
 upon your strength & appearance. Not
 one of my married nines here appear to
 work as you do & none of them look much

alike than they did fourteen years
 ago. Their husbands are all prosperous
 men & none of them except Jane
 have large families. She has five
 alive & expects her ninth child next
 month. Ella's one boy is a noble speci-
 man of good health & good temper
 & she herself looks very well. I have
 given her the bricks - tiles - zinc -
 also the toboggan & snow shoes I shall
 explain why when I return. The
 scented grass pans I have given to
 Sima besides the handbag, with
 wh: she seems much pleased -
 she has spoken often about writing
 to thank you but it does not aston-
 ish me that she has not done
 it, she pines about in such an
 excited state, almost persuading
 one that she had found out
 the secret of being in two places
 at once & the same time.

6
Ist Mrs Crow have failed to
acknowledge your present to her
you may apply the same course.
She has a giant Bazas on her
honor for the 11th 12th & 13th June. I
darsay having thanked me it has
escaped her memory. She wants I
me to go to the Sale of Mon with her
the two latter weeks in June & we are
to write about it from Louie, but
I think we probably will abide by the
programme given above. I never
said that we admired the patterns
of your dress very much. The kind of
silk you used for lining is one
of the newest things here. It is sold about
2/3ths per yd & is being generally adapted
especially for girls. We have ordered
two pairs of Combination skirts for Eric
as they are no where made with long
slits. We have had to buy another

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new trunk here — it was started on
acct. of a large sofa blanket Lin
wanted to send to W. & H. & now it is
full & will scarcely contain some
new clothes paper is getting. I have
wondered off from the keys to the
news ending subject of clothes but
Eva is packing & Lin is talking & I
only continue writing because there
has not ^{been} room for me to pack here
now I am to have my turn. We
leave early in the morn. & paper & I are
going at 2 P.M. today to see Miss
Thompson, the general manager of
the Ladies Educational Ass: here, & at
6. we are due at the Calhoun's for
dinner. I was glad to observe by
"Witness" sent that the Mutual L. E.
has again been recuperated in
purses. Believe me ever to be your loving
Mother

5
My much love to M. & W. — it seems
to me that they sh^d. go on with
their arrangements as they had planned
they sh^d. manage on present salary —
it will be a sore trial to have them
leave Montreal & some favourable
change may unexpectedly occur here
in the Bull's Company — at any rate it
may be years before a better opening opens
in any other place. Papa however is writing
to W. Much love also to Corp^s. to Miss
Lum & Miss Campbell. Also to Bernard
& may send kind messages to the
little ones with kisses & promises of
good things to come.

Mother.